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Edwin M. Barrows and Clinton S. Childs. The second part of the book on *The Neglected Girl* was written by Miss Ruth S. True. It is rather curious that so little has really been written on the neglected girl. Miss True's study, therefore, of actual conditions will be of value.

In the second volume we have a sketch of *The Middle West Side* of New York City by Otto G. Cartwright and a study of *Mothers Who Must Earn* by Katharine Anthony.

At first glance little relation may appear between these books, but the student is moved to ask if the mother who must go away to work under city conditions does not offer a partial explanation of the lawless boy and the neglected girl. Whether these descriptive studies, therefore, immediately lead to any changes in public conscience or industrial methods it must be recognized that the knowledge of actual conditions is the necessary basis of all wise changes, and the dissemination of such reports by the Russell Sage Foundation will have its own real influence in the gradual shaping of public opinion of the subjects discussed.

BRIGGS, JOHN E. *History of Social Legislation in Iowa*. Pp. xiv, 444. Price, \$2.00. GILLIN, JOHN L. *History of Poor Relief Legislation in Iowa*. Pp. xiv, 404. Price, \$2.00. Iowa City: The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1915.

The State Historical Society of Iowa has made a commendable record through its publication of monographs dealing with the history of the state. In the volumes now before us we have a history of poor relief legislation in Iowa by John L. Gillin, which is probably the first book of its kind emanating from the Middle West. Mr. Gillin has done an excellent piece of work. He outlines the old laws of the territory, describes the problems of the almshouse, outdoor relief and the care of defectives. He tells what has been done and indicates very plainly many things which have not been done and are left for the future.

A companion book is the one on *History of Social Legislation in Iowa* by John E. Briggs, in which the public health, provisions, care of prisoners, defectives, pensioners, laborers are discussed in chronological order.

Both volumes contain very complete notes and references to the statutes and other documentary material.

CAPEN, EDWARD WARREN. *Sociological Progress in Mission Lands*. Pp. 293. Price, \$1.50. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1914.

The fact that the father of the author of this volume was for many years the head of the American Board of Foreign Missions doubtless has much to do with his interest in this subject. The knowledge growing from this home environment, however, Dr. Capen has strengthened and widened by extensive journeys around the world, in which he had opportunity to observe the work of the foreign missions. He is now professor at Hartford Theological Seminary. He writes of the changes he has found bearing on education, on material prosperity, as well as on the position of woman, ideals of the family, development of ethical ideals, progress in social reconstruction and christianizing tendencies in non-Christian religions. He has given us a bird's-eye view, as it were, of

the field described at so much greater length years ago by Dennis. There will be many who will welcome such a story.

DEVINE, EDWARD T. *The Normal Life*. Pp. 233. Price, \$1.00. New York: Survey Associates, Inc., 1915.

In a series of lectures given before the Social Service Corporation of Baltimore in February and March, 1915, Dr. Devine undertook to emphasize the positive rather than the negative side of social questions, speaking therefore of the normal life rather than the abnormal, and in this little volume containing these lectures we have infancy, childhood, youth, maturity, and old age discussed from the standpoint of one who is tremendously interested in social welfare.

Like all of Dr. Devine's writings, these essays are interesting and stimulating.

ELLIS, GEORGE W. *Negro Culture in West Africa*. Pp. 290. Price, \$2.00. New York: The Neale Publishing Company, 1914.

Few men have had better opportunity to study the negro in his African home than the author, who for eight years was secretary to the American Legation to Liberia. This little volume is an account of the culture of the negroes with whom he came in contact, and is descriptive of their life from day to day.

Approximately half of the volume is given to their proverbs and stories. He deals primarily with the Vai peoples.

KELLOGG, PAUL U. (Ed.) *Wage-Earning Pittsburgh*. Pp. xv, 582. *The Pittsburgh District—Civic Frontage*. Pp. xviii, 554. Price, \$2.50 each. New York: Survey Associates, Inc., 1914.

Both volumes consist of a number of articles by different authors, many of which have already appeared in the original Pittsburgh survey. The value of the articles is enhanced by a number of maps, diagrams, and illustrations. The editor, Mr. Kellogg, has now made available for public use the material collected in the first great American movement toward an intensive survey of a large industrial community. This survey has played a rôle of vast importance in leading the way toward the ascertainment of social facts. The student of social science cannot but regret that the example so splendidly set has not been followed on a large scale in any other industrial community.

MAYO, MARION J. *The Mental Capacity of the American Negro*. Pp. 70. Price, 85 cents. New York: The Science Press.

This little study is an attempt to determine from an analysis of the records made from white and colored children in high schools of New York City the relative capacity of the two races. The author recognizes that the old tests of race superiority and inferiority are of little value. He thinks that this method will ultimately give us very important results. The study and the method is to be commended. Whether conclusions based on this material are sound is another question, for progress in school depends not merely upon individual but upon race, background, home atmosphere and all the outside stimuli to progress. Little attention, however, is paid to this fact.